GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1810
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2003
ATR 42-320 FOR HIMACHAL PRADESH
SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had announced to provide to Himachal Pradesh with ATR 42-320 50 seater aircraft last year;

(b) if so, whether the four ATRs acquired by Alliance Air are for exclusive use in the North Eastern Sector therebydepriving Himachal Pradesh of their services; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that Himachal Pradesh get the services of these aircrafts?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a): No, Sir.

(b)and (c): Alliance Air has inducted 4 ATR-42-320 (50 seater aircraft) on lease for providing increased connectivity in the North-East with the annual financial assistance of Rs.35 crores from the Department of Development of North-East Region.As such, these aircraft are not available for operation of services to any other part of the country.

Government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-Eastregion. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by Government.